SKETCHES OF LINCOLN.

Dark River.

LITTLE ABE'S DISMAL EXPERIENCE.

Thomas Lincoln's Brief Widowerhood-He Marries Sally Bush Johnston-Two Sets of Children In the Lincoln Household. Abe at Dorsey's School.

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In the fall of 1818 the scantily settled region in the vicinity of Pigeon creek, where the Lincolns were then living, suffered a visitation of that dread disease common in the west in early days and known in the vernacular of the frontier as "the milk sick." It hovered like a specter over the Pigeon creek settlement for over ten years, and its fatal visitation and inroads among the Lincolns, Hankses and Sparrows finally drove that contingent into Illinois. To this day the medical profession have never agreed upon any definite cause for the malady, nor have they in all their scientific wrangling determined exactly what the disease itself is.

Early in October of the year 1818 Thomas and Betsy Sparrow fell ill of ed the services of undertaker. With his whipsaw he cut out the lumber and with commendable promptness nailed together the rudest of coffins to inclose the forms of the dead. The bodies were midst of the forest, and there, without grave. Meanwhile Abe's mother had in a week she, too, rested from her la-

"She struggled on day by day, says one of the household, "a good Christian thus formed pasting pieces of greased bread sources and died on the seventh day paper to admit light. after she was taken sick. Abe and his sister Sarah waited on their mother and did the little jobs and errands required of them. There was no physician nearer than 35 miles. The mother knew she was going to die and called the children to her bedside. She was very weak, and the children leaned over while she gave her last message. Placing ber feeble hand on little Abe's head, she told him to be kind and good to his father and sister. To both she said, 'Be good to one another,' expressing a hope that they might live, as they had been taught by her, to love their kindred and worship God." Amid the miserable surroundings of a home in the wilderness Nancy kind 1,800 years before.

After the death of their mother little life-indeed one more cheerless and less inviting seldom falls to the lot of any child. In a log cabin without a floor, scantily protected from the severities of experienced.

A Matter of Fact Courtship.

earnest this time and after a brief siege never revealed it. won her heart. "He made a very short got the list and paid them that evening. they were married within 60 yards of his shinbone-sharp, blue and narrow." my house.'

In the eyes of her spouse she could not be regarded as a poor widow. She door of Thomas Lincoln's forlorn cabin | the room," related Miss Roby to me in creaking through the woods can better d-e-f, and then I stopped, hesitating be imagined than described.

Surely Sarah and Abe, as the stores presence and smile of a motherly face in the cheerless cabin radiated sunshine into every neglected corner. If the Lincoln mansion did not in every respect correspond to the representations made | Lincoln said, reflecting on the attitude by its owner to the new Mrs. Lincoln of clergymen toward slavery, "and if before marriage, the latter gave no ex- they do not they surely have not read pression of disappointment or even sur- their Bible."

prise. With true womenly courage and right that which seemed wrong. Her husband was made to put a floor in the Nancy Hanks Passes Over the cabin, as well as to supply doors and windows. The cracks between the logs were plastered up. A clothespress filled the space between the chimney jam and afternoon, after He had left the temple, on the the wall, and the mat of corn husks way to Bethany over the Mount of Olives. and leaves on which the children had slept gave way to the comfortable luxthe two orphans and fitted them out in PLACE.—The Mount of Olives. overlooking the two orphans and fitted them out in clothes taken from the stores of her ewn. The work of renovation in and around afternoon before the crucifixion. Jesus had the cabin cortinued until even Thomas Lincoln himself, under the general stimulus of the new wife's presence, caught the inspiration and developed signs of intense activity. The advent of against them not in a denunciatory manner Sarah Bush was certainly a red letter day for the Lincolns. She was not only Leaving the temple. Jesus, with His disciple industrious and thrifty, but gentle and affectionate, and her newly adopted children, for the first time perhaps, realized the benign influence of a mother's love. Of young Abe she was especially fond, and we have her testimony that her kindness and care for him were warmly and bountifully returned.

The two sets of children in the Lincoln household-to their credit be it said-lived together in perfect accord. Abe was in his tenth year, and his stepmother, awake to the importance of an education, made a way for him to attend school. To her he seemed full of promise, and although not so quick of comprehension as other boys, yet she believthe disease and died within a few days | ed in encouraging his every effort. He of each other. Thomas Lincoln perform- had had a few weeks of schooling under Riney and Hazel in Kentucky, but it is hardly probable that he could read. He certainly could not write.

Hazel Dorsey was Abe's first teacher in Indiana. He held forth a mile and borne to a scantily cleared knoll in the a half from the Lincoln farm. The schoolhouse was built of round logs and ceremony, quietly let down into the was just high enough for a man to stand erect under the loft. The floor also fallen a victim to the insidious dis- was of split logs, or what were called ease. Her sufferings, however, were puncheons. The chimney was made of destined to be of brief duration. With- poles and clay, and the windows were made by cutting out parts of two logs, placing pieces of split boards a proper "She struggled on day by day," says distance apart, and over the aperture of life:

Abraham at School.

"He was always at school early," writes Grigsby, "and attended to his Young man! has not your eye been studies He was always at the head of frequently attracted to a sign havstudies. He lost no time at home, and it: "Bar"? Avoid the place; it is no when he was not at work was at his misnomer. The experience of thoubooks. He kept up his studies on Sun- sands has proved it to be: A bar work so that he might read when he to happiness; a bar to domestic felicity; rested from labor. "

Now and then, the family exchequer | Every day it proves to be the road to Though of lowly birth, the victim of that all his school days added together drunkard's grave; the road to hell. poverty and hard usage, she takes a place in history as the mother of a son who liberated a race of mon. At her who liberated a race of men. At her usually accompanied him. "Sally was a testimony of a schoolmate. She was more industrious than Abe in my opin- pienty of sorrow, pienty of shame ion. I can hear her good humored laugh Pleaty of broken hearts, hopes doomed and After the death of their model from 100. I can hear sealed.

Abe and his sister Sarah began a dreary now. Like her brother, she could greet sealed.

Plenty of graves in the potter's field. you kindly and put you at ease. She was really an intelligent woman.

old. At the next one, Andrew Craw- ance; against temptation; over the the weather, deprived of the comfort of ford's, he was about 14, and at Swa- young; for opportunities. If we watch, a mother's love, they passed through a ney's he was in his seventeenth year. temperance and all the train of virtues winter the most dismal either one ever The last school required a walk of over will rule over all the house, over ourfour miles, and on account of the dis- selves, and over our country. tance his attendance was not only irreg- | An English temperance orator, when Thomas Lincoln's widowerhood was ular, but brief. Schoolmaster Crawford speaking on the subject whether or not brief. He had scarcely mourned the introduced a new feature in his school, it would be possible to close the public death of his first wife a year until he and we can imagine its effect on his drinking saloons, said: "This is a diffireappeared in Kentucky at Elizabeth- pupils, whose training had been limited cult question, truly, my friends; but we Polat Argued by a Louisville Second-Hand town in search of another. His admira- to the social requirements of the back- will do well to remember that: tion had centered for a second time on woods settlement. It was instruction There's a little public house which everyone Sally Bush, the widow of Daniel John- in manners. One scholar was required It is the little public house just underneath the ston, the jailer of Hardin county, who to go outside and re-enter the room as had died several years before of a dis- a lady or gentleman would enter a drawease known as the "cold plague." The ing room or parlor. Another scholar sinks gradually by this fell poison; first tradition still kept alive in the Ken- would receive the first party at the door he favors it, then he warms to it, then tucky neighborhood is that Lincoln had and escort him or her about the room, he burns for it, then he is consumed been a suitor for the hand of the lady making polite introductions to each per- by it." before his marriage to Nancy Hanks, son in the room. How the gaunt and The Consequences of Not Watching. but that she had rejected him for the clumsy Abe went through with this -Destruction to ourselves, to our famhand of the more fortunate Johnston. performance we shall probably never ilies and to our nation. However that may have been, it is cer- know. It his awkward movements gave tain that he began his campaign in rise to any amusement, his schoolmates

He was now over 6 feet high and was courtship," wrote Samuel Haycraft to growing at a tremendous rate, for he me in a letter on Dec. 7, 1866. "He added two inches more before the close came to see her on the 1st of December, of his seventeenth year, thus reaching 1786, had been married to seven hus- business man of great culture and re-1819, and in a straightforward manner the limit of his stature. He weighed in bands, all of whom she outlived. She finement who is vigorously pursuing an told her that they had known each other the region of 160 pounds, was wiry, espoused the last at the mature age of old wooden desk which he owned many from childhood. 'Miss Johnston,' said vigorous and strong. His feet and hands sixty. When on her death-bed she re- years ago-a desk on which he made an he, 'I have no wife and you no husband. were large, arms and legs long and in called the good and bad points in each enormous amount of money by a few I came a purpose to marry you. I knowed striking contrast with his slender trunk of her husbands, and, having impartial- lucky strokes of his pen. The desk you from a gal, and you knowed me and small head. "His skin was shriveled by weighed them in the balance, she passed from hand to hand and out of from a boy. I've no time to lose, and if and yellow," declares one of the girls singled out her sixth spouse as her his possession; he is now earnestly enyou're willin let it be done straight off.' who attended Crawford's school. "His favorite, and desired that her remains deavoring to trace it and purchase it, She replied that she could not marry shoes, when he had any, were low. He might be interred near his. The death believing that recent business reverses him right off, as she had some little wore buckskin breeches, linsey woolsey of a soldier is recorded in 1874 who had and hard times will flee away if he can debts which she wanted to pay first. He shirt and a cap made of the skin of a five wives, and his widow, aged ninety, only stretch his legs once more under replied, 'Give me a list of them.' He squirrel or coon. His breeches were bag- wept over the grave of her fourth hus- that same old desk. gy and lacked by several inches meeting band. Next morning I issued the license, and the tops of his shoes, thereby exposing

was a great success-that was spelling. We are indebted to Kate Roby, a pretty suing for her hand, "that I have been was the owner of a goodly stock of fur- miss of 15, for an incident which illus- divorced three times and that I have A new invention of this nature is reniture and household goods, bringing trates alike his proficiency in orthogra- eloped with an actress." She trembled. with her among other things a walnut phy and his natural inclination to help bureau valued at \$50. What effect the another out of the mire. The word "deble, "my happiness is at stake, and you one side but when looked at from the new family, their collection of furni- fied" had been given out by Schoolmas- are almost a stranger. Ought I not to one side, but when looked at from the ture, cooking utensils and comfortable ter Crawford, but had been misspelled ask even further evidence of your no- other is as transparent as ordinary bedding, must have had on the astonish- several times when it came Miss Roby's ble lineage and aristocratic connec- window glass. If this is glazed in a ed and motherless pair who from the turn. "Abe stood on the opposite side of tions?"-Detroit Tribune. watched the well filled wagon as it came | 1865, "and was watching me. I began whether to proceed with an 'i' or a 'y,' Looking up, I beheld Abe, with a grin of supplies were rolled in through the covering his face and pointing with his doorless doorways, must have believed | index finger to his eye. I took the hint, that a golden future awaited them. The spelled the word with an 'i,' and it went through all right.'

He Taught Charity.

"God cares and humanity cares,"

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL.

zeal she set resolutely to work to make Quarterly Temperance Lesson, April 21, 1895 - Watchfulness -- Matt. 24: 42-51. [Specially Arranged from Peloubet's Notes.]

GOLDEN TEXT.-Take ye heed, watch and pray.—Mark 13: 33. Thus secrios of our study includes the discourses of Jesus to His disciples Tuesday Matthew chapters 21 and 25; and the parallels, Mark 13: 1-37; Luke 21: 5-36.

TIME.-Tuesday afternoon. April 4, A. D. 30.

Jerusalem, on the way to Bethany. THE CHE UMSTANCES .- It was the Tuesday spent most of the day in the temple courts in a final effort to persuade the rulers and the people to accept Him as the Messiah, and so save both themselves and the nation. Before He leaves. He pronounces the most solemn woes was the cry of love itself, thrilled with tears. viewed the massive foundations as they passed by, and as they climbed the heights of Olivet He looked into the future and saw all in ruins, not one stone left upon another. Then His prophetic eyes took a wider range into the future and saw the day of judgment, of which the destruction of Jerusalem was an awful type. Both arose from the same causes, because the people would not repent and believe. The destruction of Jerusalem bore the same relation to the Jews as the flood did to the antediluvians, which was emphatically the end of the world to them, and this was but "a ministure, on a much smaller scale," of the

AN APPLICATION TO TEMPERANCE. The Need.-In the troublous times that precede the coming of Christ in His kingdom, the battle with intemperance has no small part. There are "wars and rumors of wars." There are "great tribulations" "and great distress upon the land, and wrath unto this people.

A magazine of facts, from the National Temperance Almanae for 1894.

Direct	cost	01	intoxicating	
liquers	********	00000000		1.000,000,000
			COST.	
Lost labor caused by drinking 440.9				
Lost labor of liquor dealers				300,000,000
Siekness caused by liquor 100,000.00				
Crime caused by liquor				27,500,000
			gnor	17,000 000
Pauperis	m caus	ed by	liquor	8,000.000
			-	

COMPARISONS. Compare with this list of large expenditures the followin: Table, showing what is spent in

his class and passed us rapidly in his ing the following ominous words on day and carried his books with him to to respectability; a bar to honor; a bar a bar to Heaven.

running low, it would be found neces. degradation; the road to vice; the road sary for the young rail splitter to stop to the gambling hell; the road to the school and either work with his father brothel; the road to poverty; the road to on the farm or render like service for wretchedness; the road to want; the the neighbors. These periods of work road to robbery; the road to prison; the Hanks passed across the dark river. occurred so often and continued so long road to the gallows; the road to the

this a temperance writer remarks that side stands another mother whose Son quick minded young woman," is the out of the thing designated shall come Plenty of poverty, plenty of pain.

-Loyal Legion. How to Escape. - By Ferpetual Watch-At Dorsey's school Abe was 10 years ing-Against the enemies of temper-

Linnseus said of alcohol that: "Man

Much-Married Folk.

had married her twenty-third husband, was gone before she could buy it again. who, in his turn, had been married to twenty wives. A woman named Eliza- cated or ignorant people, by any means. beth Massi, who died at Florence in At this very time I know a Louisville

Precaution.

Her long silken lashes swept her In one branch of school learning he cheek, but swept off nothing. "I confess," faltered the noble lord who was

sional musicians of various grades.

ADVENTURES OF A BOTTLE. Cast Upon the Waters It Returned After

Many Days. In June, 1893, Lieut. H. T. Mayo, of the United States navy, in charge of the hydrographic office at Port Townsend, Wash., gave the captain of the Northern Pacific steamer Victoria a bottle which he asked him to drop into the sea when his ship was about halfway across the Pacific on its voyage to China, so as to test the currents. The bottle, says the Chicago Record, was securely corked and sealed and contained a request printed in seven different languages, including Russian, Chinese and Japanese, that whoever found it should send it to the nearest custom house in the United States. with the date and the location when but as a statement of a fact and a warning. It and where it was first seen. On July 4, 1893, when the vessel was in latitude forty-nine degrees thirty-two minutes north and longitude one hundred and seventy-five degrees and forty-two minutes west, Second Officer Dobson, of the Victoria, took the bottle and with a swing of his long arm cast it into the water. One morning a few weeks ago when Lieut. Mayo came down to his office he found on his desk a package wrapped in an ancient and much soiled German newspaper, which, to his surprise, was found to contain the very bottle he sent on that queer errand about sixteen months before. The janitor said the package had been left there by two rough-looking sailors. Upon drawing the cork the lieutenant found a rude inscription upon the back of his carefully printed instructions which rend:

"Here's your bottle. Found (on such and such a date, in such and such latitude and longitude). The next time you east a bottle adrift please put something else in it besides a piece of

GRECIAN ENTERPRISE.

Why the I rait of Athens Is Always Too Green to Eat.

It is the way of travelers to complain of the food they are obliged to eat in foreign countries. Whether it is an American in Europe, or a European in America, the result is much the same. We like the things to which we are accustomed. When Edmond About was in Greece, he carried matters so far as to object to eating green peaches. He was in the bazaar at Athens, says the Youth's Companion.

"Wouldn't it be possible to get some ripe peaches?" he asked the vender. "I think not," answered the Athenian.

"But pray tell me why?" "We have no good roads. If the farmers should try to bring ripe fruit to market on mule-back, it would arrive

in the shape of marmalade. "But at Corfu, also, the peaches were green, and they have good roads, and

bring the fruit to town in wagons." "Ah, well," said the man, "there is another reason. The farmers have no money, and they have creditors. They

can't wait for fruit to get ripe." There, says About, you have a fair example of the state of Grecian agricul-

A French gardener, being at Smyrna. noticed that the Greeks had almost no vegetables in their gardens-tomatoes

everywhere, and scarcely anything else. "Why don't you raise other things?" he asked. "Asparagus, now, Your soil is just right. You would make a fine thing of it. I will furnish you with

"How soon should we get crops?"

"In four years at the longest. "Four years! Are you crazy? Do you suppose we would spend money to get something back in four years? We should be bankrupt twenty times over.'

EVERYDODY IS SUPERSTITIOUS.

Dealer Who Has Observed.

"I don't believe there is a man living who is without his pet superstition," remarked a second-hand furniture dealer, says the Louisville Courier-Journal. We constantly have people who sell us articles of household use, and come in after a few weeks-sometimes only days-and try to buy them back again, with the explanation that they had 'had bad luck' ever since the sale was made and never would have good luck again until the bargain was urdone. One woman who had sold us her grand-St. Jerome mentions a widow who mother's clock fairly wept because it

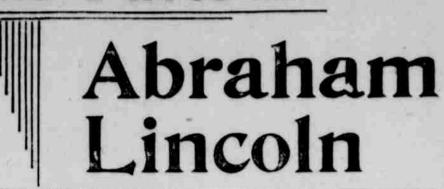
"The idea is not confined to unedu-

Mirrors That Are Transparent.

A great many devices are known for the purpose of enabling people in a house to see what is going on in the street without opening their windows. ported from Halberstadt, Germany, bedwelling-room window anyone inside can see all the life of the street, while AUSTRALIA has invented the word any passer-by looking in at the win-"stateswoman" in order to describe a dow will see but a mirror and nothing

woman. Miss Flora Shaw spends her more. This avoids, therefore, the time writing and lecturing on colonial annoyance sometimes encountered in affairs, in doing which she blends the glazing either clear window glass or imperial and colonial views very skill- ground glass, in combining the special fully. Her influence is strong, and she advantages of both. One object would is knitting closely the relation of the be that many people might stop to admother country and the far-away just their personal appearance at such narrors. An innovation on reverse Peren denied Christ once, and wept lines is that recently made in one of the forever after it. We often deny Him, Vanderbilt ball rooms, where the winand never weep for it at all .- St. Au- dows by day become large mirrors by night through mechanical arrange-LONDON has more than 10,000 profes- ments, and thus add simply but wonderfully to the brilliance of the scene.

The Facts about

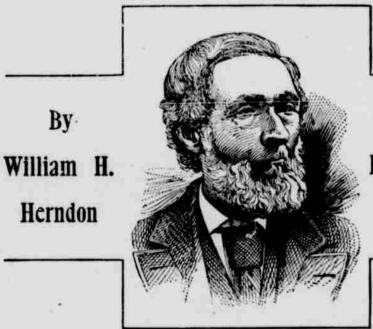




President The Martyred

The Most Authentic and Interesting Account of

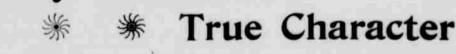
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